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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 3160
INFO RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 7754
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 9205
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 5540
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 7514

S E C R E T STATE 090206

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: OADR
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [ETTC](#) [MASS](#) [SY](#) [IR](#) [RU](#)
SUBJECT: (S) FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE ARMS
TRANSFER

REF: A. MOSCOW 2209
[1](#)B. STATE 88978
[1](#)C. HARDIMAN-WOLF EMAILS

Classified By: ISN/CATR Acting Director BBachman,
Reason 1.4 (b), (c) and (d)

[1](#)1. (U) This is a formal follow-up to discussions held in
REFTEL C.

BACKGROUND

[1](#)2. (S) We have recently received additional information
regarding flights between Syria and Iran via Moscow. Per
REFTEL B, we informed Moscow that Iran and Lebanese Hizballah
were coordinating flights between Iran and Syria to transport
military equipment. Per REFTEL A, the Russian government
promised to work to stop these flights from taking place.
Moscow asked for additional information that Washington might
have on these flights. Washington just received information
on the possible airlines that might be used, which we have
received from diplomatic sources.

OBJECTIVES

[1](#)3. (S) Washington understands that Post has already contacted
appropriate host government officials to provide them with
additional information on the potential flights between Syria
and Iran, via Moscow using three Syrian flights. The flights
are expected to take place this week. Weapons may be going
both ways (e.g. to and from Iran) on these flights. (N.B. -
this is a slightly amended point, per REFTEL C; it deletes
the reference to the specific start date of the flight.)
Post may draw upon the following talking points as
appropriate in following-up with host government officials:

BEGIN TALKING POINTS

SECRET/REL RUSSIA

--As we recently discussed with you, we have received
information that Iran, in cooperation with Lebanese
Hizballah, was preparing to ship military equipment between
Syria and Iran via Moscow.

--We have obtained additional information that we would like
to share with you to assist in your efforts to prevent these
flights.

--It is possible that the shipments will be carried out by
the Syrian air force or civilian airlines such as Saha
Airlines and possibly one other airline.

--We look forward to continued cooperation with you on these issues and learning the results of your efforts to prevent these flights.

END TALKING POINTS

¶4. (S) Washington looks forward to receiving the response from the GOR on any actions it may have taken with regarding to preventing these flights.

¶5. (U) Post's assistance is greatly appreciated. ISN/CATR POC is Margaret Mitchell (mitchellmt2@state.sgov.gov).
CLINTON